

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

March 30, 1998

LB 1209

been. And DEQ, like any other agency, is responsive to the wishes of the Legislature, and certainly if it got to the point where they were requiring a permit of all of these 9,000 because of some theoretical danger to our waters, this matter would be back before us very, very quickly, and DEQ would be having to justify things all over the place. So I mean there has to be some faith here that whatever we do will be treated with reason and will be applied in a responsible manner, and I'm confident that that will happen. And so I again rise...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR BROMM: ...to support the committee amendments. Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Bromm. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I think I'll pass at this junc.... Well, let me...let me just mention a couple things that have not been described in the committee amendments and may be of interest to some of you. The classifications in the bill do distinguish between four different sizes of operations. And that distinction plays into several areas of the bill in the committee amendments. But what I wanted to note, just for your attention, are two provisions that do relate to those class sizes. One of them, on page 13, says that rules and regulations adopted and promulgated under this section may be based upon size classification of livestock waste control facilities and the form of waste management, and may include more stringent requirements for facilities of larger size classes and waste control technologies that are more likely to cause adverse impacts. So, the bill does direct DEQ to pay attention, first and foremost, to the very large operations that have the potential for catastrophic effects on the environment. Section 14 on that same page also says, it is the intent of the Legislature that, in enforcing the provisions of the Livestock Waste Management Act, the department shall give priority to livestock waste control facilities within classes in the following order, and then it starts with the largest and goes down to the smallest. So we're saying that to the extent that you may have to allocate scarce resources in effectuating the management of the whole industry, vis a vis the regulations, if